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**PATENT** 

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

James Gary PRUETT

Docket No.:

HTI-8091

Serial No:

09/940,901

Examiner:

not assigned yet

Filed:

August 28, 2001

Group Art Unit:

1774

For:

SUBSTANTIALLY PURE BULK PYROCARBON AND METHODS OF

PREPARATION

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Dec. 10,2001

## TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BEFORE A FIRST OFFICE ACTION ON THE MERITS (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3))

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, Applicant submits this paper in compliance with his duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Applicant wishes to introduce art having some relevance to the present application, which has been listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08A. This form includes nine (9) United States patent documents, and one (1) foreign patent document. No representation is made that a specific search has been made by Applicant, that the information is material to the claimed subject matter, or that the information represents the only or the best information.

Applicant does not admit that any of the information provided is necessarily prior to his invention, but rather it is information of which he is aware and believes should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding the priority of a specific document shall be resolved during prosecution.

The information provided herewith is in the English language. The referenced art is being cited for the express purpose of providing the Patent and Trademark Office with the opportunity to make an evaluation and to arrive at an independent assessment of materiality of each document, if any, to the examination of this application. The Examiner is requested to disregard any marking on the copies of the cited documents. Markings on the references should not be regarded as necessarily pointing out the portions of the subject document regarded by the Applicant as relevant to the subject application. Applicant respectfully requests that the information cited be made of record in the subject case.

## IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before a first office action on the merits of the application. No fee is due with the filing of this paper. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorney for Applicant

12-10-2001

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A/PTO Application Number 09/940,901 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date August 28, 2001 STATEMENT BY APPLICANT First Named Inventor James Gary PRUETT 1774 Group Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name** not assigned yet 1 of Sheet Attorney Docket Number HTI-8091

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Do	cument Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		3,977,896		Bokros et al.	08-31-1976			
		4,013,760		Huschka et al.	03-22-1977			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document					Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines,	Т
		Office <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup>		4	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	1.0
		EP	1120842	•	A1	Mitsui Mining Co., Ltd.	08-01-2001		$\perp$
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.